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**For Immediate Release**  
September 24, 2007

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**Ellsworth Man Sentenced for Stealing Guns**

Bangor, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that **John Richard Wixon**, 25, of Ellsworth, Maine, was sentenced on September 24, 2007 in U.S. District Court in Bangor, to three months imprisonment, two years supervised release and a \$1,000 fine for stealing firearms from a federally licensed firearms dealer. Wixon pled guilty on December 18, 2006.

According to court records, Wixon was an employee of Willey's Sports Center, an outdoor supplier and firearms dealer in Ellsworth, Maine. Over the course of seven weeks in late 2005, Wixon took nine firearms from Willey's without paying for them. The total value of the stolen guns was \$2,466. All nine firearms were recovered by police during the investigation. As part of his sentence, Wixon was also ordered to pay \$376 in restitution, the loss in value of the firearms from the time they were stolen to the time they were recovered.

United States Attorney Silsby praised the investigation conducted by the Hancock County Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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